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Santa and his helpers spread cheer and health to youngsters



NEWARK—Santa made an early appearance today at Newark's Stella Wright Homes housing project—transported not by his faithful reindeer but by a

festively-decorated, fully-equipped, professionally-staffed medical van, part of the Newark Children's Health Project. Since August, the mobile pe-

diatric clinic has been providing weekly on-site health care and information to some 2,500 medically underserved children—from

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Government proceeds with ban on minority scholarships

by Kelly McCoy

Despite criticism from civil rights leaders and educators the Education Department plans to proceed with a plan banning scholarships designed exclusively for minorities.

Under this new policy announced by Michael Williams, the department secretary for civil rights, colleges could award such scholarships as long as the money came from private donations designed for that purpose or from federal programs established to aid minority students. Colleges can not use money from the general operation budget for the scholarships. The general operation budget is the main source of money that colleges use for minority scholarships.

Confusion arose over published announcements that the plan had been reversed. However, John H. Sanunu made it clear that there might be a drawing of legal distinction between money de-

rated privately and money from the general budget. Although race-related scholarships funded by the gov-

ernment would not be allowed, congressionally mandated scholarships for minorities would con-

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Essex County prosecutor still investigating Bloomfield game

by Kelly McCoy

NEWARK—The Essex County Prosecutor's office is continuing its investigation of a racial violence involving Bloomfield and Barringer High Schools. Witnesses are being questioned and documented as well as physical evidence is being examined to substantiate accusations made by members of Barringer High School. The

County Prosecutors is investigating allegations that the Barringer High School football team along with band members were mentally and physically abused by Bloomfield High School football players, fans, adults, and the Bloomfield police. According to eyewitnesses, during a scheduled football game between the rival schools, Bloomfield supporters repeated racial slurs that referred to the Barringer Bluebirds and their fans as "niggers" and be-

(Continued on page 3)

Black elected officials rally for key African-American Appointments

NEWARK—On Thursday, December 27, 1990, members of the Democratic Party, Black Elected Officials, the Black Clergy and concerned citizens in Essex County will take part in a major rally, to demand publicly that African American candidates be appointed to the positions of Essex County Prosecutor and Essex County Sheriff. The rally will be held at the Quality Inn, 50 Park Place, Newark, at 7:00 p.m. It is open to concerned residents, who also wish to address this issue.

The rally is a result of a number of strategy meetings which have been held over the past few weeks, by New Jersey's Contingent of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO) and other community groups. NBC-LEO's position, according to National Board Member and Newark Councilman-at-Large, Donald Tucker is that "the African-American community in Essex has been de-

voutly loyal to the Democratic Party in all of the elections that have taken place, contributing not only votes but resources, people-power, and organized commitment. The Black vote within the Democratic Party has provided the margin of victory for many Democratic candidates seeking office on the local, county and

state levels."

Tucker went on to state that "within the local political arena, Black Officials have been notified that serious discussion is taking place within the channels of the Democratic Party, about pending appointments of two candidates—neither of whom happen to be

(Continued on page 8)



by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

A time for serious reflections

There will be an empty seat at the Hawkins' table this Christmas. The place where normally Yusuf Hawkins would sit down and share in the holiday meal and festivities with his family will remain forever vacant. Yusuf lies in his grave; his young life ended tragically by a white racist mob in Bensonhurst.

All of the murderers, except one, will be sitting at home with their families, enjoying their holidays. They probably will have a good laugh, maybe even brag about how they "got off." The murderers can breathe easier now, because their beliefs were upheld:

there was no way any white boys were going to go to jail for murdering a black boy in America.

Those Bensonhurst residents who witnessed the murder of Yusuf Hawkins, and either silently sat back not caring or daring to have the decency to see the murderers brought to trial, will also be enjoying their holidays. The protection that they gave to the murderers make them just as guilty—but I doubt that any will be suddenly hit with the Christmas spirit, and moved to redeem their rotten souls.

The Brooklyn D.A.'s office can close down for their Christmas vacation, secure in the knowledge that they put forth their worst efforts in these cases.

(Continued on page 4)

James awards certificates to members of W.I.N.



Mayor Sharpe James (left) and Osborne Carter, Newark division of sanitation supervisor (far right) presented members of the Working Inmates Network (W.I.N.) program with certificates of appreciation at a recent awards ceremony held at Northern State Prison. Mayor's Office staff members Cheryl Johnson, aide (fifth from left); Hilda Rivera, assistant (center); and Tanya Adler, aide (center) assisted Mayor James with the presentation of plaques.

Mayor Sharpe James recently awarded 21 members of the Northern State Prison (NSP), Working Inmate Network (W.I.N.) program certificates of appreciation during an awards ceremony at the Newark correctional facility. The Mayor lauded the participants "for giving something back to the community and their outstanding efforts to keep Newark clean."

The participants in the W.I.N. program, founded in September of 1986, are minimum security prisoners, near their time of release. The inmates work on a volunteer basis with the Newark division of sanitation cleaning vacant lots around the city.

(Continued on page 2)

Grant discusses aide's charges against Murphy

Newark—The President of Newark's Municipal Council, Ralph T. Grant, Jr., discussed a copyright infringement case filed by Hafiz Farid, one of his council aides against Eddie Murphy and others. New deposition disclosures are to be brought out in a public hearing on December 28, 1990, at 9:00 a.m., in Federal District Court on Franklin Street, Newark, before Judge Harold Ackerman. The widely publicized case centers around Farid's 1986 formal submission of his screenplay "Going Straight" to Eddie Murphy, et al. Farid claims that Murphy subsequently took major ideas from "Going Straight", and

worked them into his production of "Harlem Nights." Earlier this year, Murphy et al, denied knowledge of Farid's script, and attempted to discredit Farid's character in the press. The court date will deal with Murphy's motion for summary judgment, on the basis that there were no similarities in the script, and Farid's cross-motion which establishes discrepancies and substantial similarities.

Grant, who indicates that his employee "was discriminated against and not given a fair shake in the initial press accounts of the

(Continued on page 3)

Payne gives results of fact-finding mission to Liberia, says worldwide effort needed

Tenth District Congressman Donald M. Payne, who serves on the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, returned Saturday from a fact-finding mission to Liberia and neighboring West African countries.

Payne, who had been working to liberalize entry regulations in the U.S. for stranded Liberians to be reunited with their families, reported good news. When he arrived in the Ivory Coast, he was informed of a recent State Department cable to U.S. Embassies in West Africa that instructed Consular Officers to "give sympathetic consideration to non-immigrant visa applications from Liberians who can establish that they have valid reasons to travel temporarily to the U.S. and who, under the present circumstances,

have no alternatives but to apply out of district." This would mean that Liberians in the U.S. should urge their relatives who are refugees grounds for family reunification in the United States.

A brief trip was made by helicopter from Sierra Leone to Monrovia on Wednesday where they met with representatives of Special Emergency Life Food (SELF), the Liberians relief agency, the Catholic Relief Service, Doctors Without Borders/Belgium, International Committees for the Red Cross, UNICEF and the United Nations High Commission of Refugees. Payne stated that the agencies identified a strategic problem of food availability after the next four weeks. It seems that due to lack of previously arranged ship chartering there will be no food for a space of five weeks. With the cease fire in effect it is feared more people will return to Monrovia, thus compounding the problem. Payne said, "Pressure must be put on the World Food Program (WFP) to convince shipping companies to disregard the lack of telecommunications available, and off-and-on security problems, or the only other resort will be to use naval forces. The food available, it's just a matter of getting it there," Payne said.

They also met with a faction of the Johnson Rebel Group and the Commander of the remaining Deo Forces. Because of logistical problems it was not possible to meet with Charles Taylor, leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, but they did talk with him by telephone.

Payne, who chaired the Geneva-based World Alliance of YMCAs Refugee Committee from 1973 to 1981, said, "I was appalled at the destruction of Monrovia which included the YMCA building I had helped to raise funds for at one time. We visited an orphanage and the children were in the same malnourished condition as those I visited in 1974 in the Wollo Province of Ethiopia. It is inconceivable to me that in a time when we are all a part of the global village we can turn our heads on these starving people. The United States, because of its historic relationship with Liberia, has a responsibility to enlist other world powers to provide humanitarian assistance. While our government has led the way so far, the needs of 1,250,000 refugees and displaced persons are massive and above our capacity to fulfil. Without worldwide support this society may never be revived."

On Thursday Payne arrived in Banjul, Gambia where the three

warring factions and Liberia's West African-sponsored interim government are to begin a new series of meetings with ECOWAS countries to try to establish the cease fire. Payne said, "everyone was disappointed that Charles Taylor did not participate. Rather he sent his Defense Minister Tom Woewiyu. While the meeting is scheduled for four days Payne was cautious in his hopes for a successful outcome without the presence of Taylor.

However, a joint statement of the Warring Parties in Liberia was signed at 4:30 p.m. on Friday before Payne departed for the states. The statement signed by Woewiyu of the NPFL, as well as Perer Naigow for the Johnson-led Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) and Gen. Hozekiah Bowen for the former Deo-headed Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) agreed to organize an All-Liberia Conference in Liberia within the next 60 days to form a future interim government. A Technical Committee will work out security arrangements under the supervision of Economic Community of West African States. In regard to maintaining the cease fire it was agreed that all warring parties would remain where they were as of the signing of the cease fire agreement in

Bamako on November 28, 1990. The warring parties also agreed that effective immediately all seaports and airports will be considered military free zones and that the warring party in control will be responsible for security measures along with West African

Forces when their use is desired. Payne stated, "I hope this later action will improve the chance of food arriving on a timely basis."

In Banjul, Payne also met with Gambia President Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara.

Essex County prosecutor still investigating

(Continued from page 1)

longing to the jungle. Sources say the Bluebirds were the recipients of, repeated bad calls by the officials, physical abuse by Bloomfield players that was overlooked and unnecessary abusive force by the Bloomfield police.

According to Raymond Wise of the Essex County Prosecutor's office, "The investigation is continuing and we are coordinating with other law enforcements." The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is now looking into the matter. However, the Newark Board of Education has not received any information concerning the investigation. When asked if there were any developments, Kirk Smith from the Newark

Board of Education replied, "Not to my knowledge."

As the investigation continues, Chester Parlavochio, head coach of the Bloomfield football team turned in his resignation. George Middleton, Athletic Director of Sports, denied rumors that the coach was fired as a result of the incident. "He (Parlavochio) was not asked to resign. He resigned at the end of the season of his own volition. Nobody here fired the coach and no one asked him to resign," commented Middleton. Several attempts were made to contact Parlavochio, however he never responded.

Grant discusses aide's charges

(Continued from page 1)

case filed against Murphy et al., feels that "finally the original question of whether the Murphy camp had 'access' to the information will be resolved. Although they originally denied having received 'Going Straight', they are now admitting to some knowledge of it, but are still trying to get around the information claim by filing a summary judgment, stating that there are no similarities between 'Going Straight' and 'Harlem Nights'. The Councilman summarized some of the major 'substantial similarities' and briefing points, from the counter motion filed by Farid's Attorneys, Faines and Washington.

"The case of Farid vs Murphy was only publicized to a point," states Councilman Grant, who says he is certain that the court depositions add validity to his aide's original claims of foul play. "In my mind, the media has not properly been updated and given information which adds balance and factual testimony, to validate this case. I have gone through the most current briefings and feel that the evidence is strong enough to warrant a public update, as well as more expeditious handling of the case through the courts."

He added that he "hopes the media will see fit to investigate and print some of the current information, which will vindicate Farid's character, and at the same time, make public newly disclosed substantial evidence that Farid's suit is not a frivolous one."

Forty eight specific point-by-point "substantial similarities" between the "Going Straight" script and the "Harlem Nights" script were detailed, including the following arguments:

- the same basic plot: two African American male leads in a comedy-drama set in Harlem, who for reasons of necessity have to pull a scam or a series of scams, in order to go legitimate after living a life of crime.

- both involving the same two leading characters: Murphy and Pryor, as well as a segment with Rodd Fox.

- substantially similar plot progression.

- substantial similar life patterns of characters in scripts

- substantially similar settings and places of human interaction; e.g., Harlem, Lenox Avenue, two Harlem nightclubs are prevalent in both

- substantially similar usage of names for similar characters; e.g., Len Wilson vs Ben Wilson

- substantially similar usage of musical material for certain frames; e.g., Duke Ellington's "Take the A Train"

- substantially similar love interests and love scenes sequences

- substantially similar "scam" scenarios

- similar bar scenes with white males "flirting" with African American females

- both have similar sub-scams within the main scam

- substantially similar references to the nightclub scene's atmosphere

- substantial similarity in the way both "Going Straight" and "Harlem Nights" end their stories.

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				Instapure Faucet 1 oz. can \$20.99	

Editorial

Bush: "Be all that you can be"

While America struggles with a serious economic recession, poor Americans, many African Americans and Hispanics, are jobless and homeless. Far too many, in proportion to numbers in the population, are in jail or in the Persian Gulf.

Now, in addition to unemployment which leads to a host of other discrepancies in society, the administration announces a policy to deny educational scholarships to minorities unless it is need based.

Does this mean that Bush, in preparation for his Gulf War, will have access to African American's brightest who will have no choice but to fight and die because their one last hope of getting an education has just been denied?

Is it not a coincidence that being denied access to education and the build-up of troops in the Gulf, conveniently feed one another.

Just listen to the increase in "Be all that you can be" on black and black-oriented stations.

What does cutting off aid mean for students who don't meet the poverty guidelines?

There is clear evidence that minorities make lower wages. It is also clear that minorities use more of their spendable income on insurance, protection from crime, medical expenses and other expenses because they live in our urban areas. In essence, the dollar doesn't go as far as their white counterparts. Therefore, even for the African-American "middle-class," there is little chance of meeting the rising cost of a college education.

Although the administration has used its nomenclature to say that "It didn't really mean to open this can of worms," the worms are out and being fueled by groups who will use this new disclosure to make sure that African-Americans and other minorities' brightest and ablest will be denied access to education and will probably end up in the Persian Gulf as the President escalates his John Wayne diplomacy in the Middle East.

African Americans should use these next few months not with the traditional celebrating of Martin Luther King's birthday or Black History Month; African-Americans should use this time to remember, rededicate and rally this country for the high goals of equality and freedom for which their ancestors, their leaders fought and died. They should use this time to voice strongly and unwaveringly their opposition to an administration that continues to foster the erosion of civil rights.

Tax reform: Why we did what we did

by Wayne R. Bryant, Esq.
Assembly Majority Leader

I wish to take this time to personally explain the Tax Reform package which I, as Assembly Majority Leader authored and Governor Jim Florio signed into law.

Depending on the measurement or methodology, New Jersey ranks second or third among all states in the levels of property taxes levied (Wyoming always ranks first because it levies no percentage of untaxed land owned by the Federal Government).

In New Jersey, property taxes have been rising at triple the rate of inflation. Property taxes have gone up 66.5 percent in just the past five years. In 1981, 58 percent of state spending went to municipalities. By the end of the Kean Administration in 1989, only 48 percent of state aid made it to municipalities, increasing the burden on local property tax dollars to pay for many programs and services.

In 1986, the average property tax burden for homeowners with incomes between \$20,000 and \$30,000 was, as a percentage, three times as great as the burden for homeowners earning \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Homeowners with incomes less than \$20,000 (such as senior citizens) paid 11 percent of their 1986 income on property taxes while homeowners earning \$200,000 paid less than 1 percent. In New Jersey, property taxes amount to 42.1 percent of the total bill for all kinds of state and local taxes; this is higher than the national average of 30.4 percent. New Jersey's figures rank just behind Oregon, New Hampshire, Wyoming and Montana.

Thirty-five states contribute more to support local school districts than does New Jersey. The national average of state aid per pupil pays 50.19 percent of elementary/secondary school costs while New Jersey pays only 43%.

The tax reform package relieves the property tax burden through several means. The new school financial formula will lower taxes in 350 out of the 600 New Jersey school districts. And, it should be noted, these 350 districts are currently educating 80% of all school-age children.

The Tax Reform Package also includes several other measures reaching and significant benefits:

- 1) Under the new Homestead Rebate Program, \$596 million dollars will be targeted for rebates to homeowners and renters whose property taxes exceed 5 percent of their income;
- 2) Rebates will directly impact upon 1.3 million homeowners and 812-thousand tenants;
- 3) 20 Percent of taxpayers filing for returns (approximately 745,000 state residents) receive a maximum rebate of \$500.
- 4) If you're making \$22,000 per year and paying \$750 in rent, you've received \$35 under the old rebate program. The newly enacted Tax Reform Package boosts your rebate to \$500.

More tax relief is provided by the state assuming the costs of certain human services - i.e., welfare services - from county and local governments. These takeovers lower the county portion of taxes by an average of 10 percent.

Combined state and local taxes (not including school taxes) decreases for the average family of four in all but 66 of the state's 567 municipalities. While tax rates of 7% have been applied to single persons earning more than \$70,000 dollars and married couples earning more than \$150,000, the fact remains that only a minority of high income earners (approximately 17 percent of the people of New Jersey) will pay additional income taxes - contrary to much of the rhetoric that is being bandied about.

To plainly illustrate what is occurring, I have included a breakdown of the tax package as

As I See It...

by Connie Woodruff

One may not always agree with Mayor Sharpe James' antics in and out of Newark City hall but you've got to admit his wit, oratory and introductions of friends and foes are entertaining.

He was in rare form at his annual Christmas Party earlier this week, packing some 400 of us into the Quality Inn's Crystal Room for several festive hours of eats, drinks and music designed to keep us awake and doing our thing (some good, some bad) on the dance floor.

Since Mayor James is known in some quarters as "Mr. Show Biz," you never know what surprise he has in store. Hence, few eyebrows were raised when Sharpe swept into the room decked out in white sneakers and socks, bright red tennis shorts (in the middle of December), a matching short sleeve tee shirt and a jaunty red and white Santa Claus hat worn at a rakish angle. As usual, the mayor had an explanation for his unusual holiday outfit. Seems like he's currently playing in a tennis tournament at the Mountainside Country Club and wishes to join his guests in NEWARK.

The usual round of introductions to local politicians and members of his city hall "team" consumed the better part of an hour. But the mayor was determined to give everybody his and her due. It was a relief when he finally signaled the D.J., shouting, "Let's have a party!"

that brought all of the dancers (good and bad) to the floor and sent the mayor off into a frenzied performance of the "electric slide." Learning how to execute the new dance craze seems to be required of all city hallers from the maintenance crew to top administrators.

If you can't beat him, it's better to join him. So here's to Mayor Sharpe James for the merriest of Christmas and best of the new year!

In one of his more quiet moments, the mayor noted he and his wife recently received the "greatest Christmas gift of all," news that son John, was among the December 1990 graduates from Morehouse University.

Clara Dasher of the Newark Teachers Union has been replaced as chairwoman of the Essex County College Board of Trustees by Joseph Montano, an Essex County Republican leader from Short Hills.

The Board also elected Lease Griffith of East Orange vice chairwoman.

Dasher, a veteran trade unionist and former Newark teacher, was first elected head of the college trustees in 1981, taking over the leadership during some of the college's most turbulent and traumatic years.

She quickly gained a reputation for her professionalism and

coolness under fire and was superb in building a board that has been able to stabilize the institution and develop it as one of the most progressive, productive of the state's county colleges.

And the best goes on for the men who want to be Sheriff of Essex County when "on D'Alesio steps into the county executive position on the first of January.

For now front-runners appear to be Louis Greenleaf, Newark's former police director and Undersecretary Armando Fontura, a former member of Newark's P.D.

Both men have received impressive endorsements from well known political leaders and their respective community of the Black and Hispanic activists.

Mayor James has endorsed his former police director and Fontura is heavily favored by D'Alesio (who appointed him undersecretary).

While these endorsements are important, they may or may not have a direct bearing on the appointee who will serve out D'Alesio's unexpired term.

The determination will be made by governor Florio who owes a political debt to James and D'Alesio, who headed the governor's campaign in Essex County.

But a time like this when Florio is damned if he does and damned if he doesn't with the anti-tax zealots who attack him

In and around town

daily, he needs the hot potato of choosing between two popular, capable men like a hole in the head.

It's a ticklish situation I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy. Even time is running out for the governor who will be pressured to make the appointment on or certainly immediately after D'Alesio's swearing-in on New Years Day.

Thanks to some determined East Orange councilwoman Beverly Williams, Quill, Talmadge and Yvonne Blake, Mayor Cardell Cooper and the city council have restructured and given the East Orange Commission on the Status of Women a new lease on life.

Ms. Rudine Smith serves as chairperson; members include Williams, Talmadge, Blake and former councilwoman Florence Johnson. Jennifer Johnson, Vebina Hogan, Sheila Oliver, Olive Harvey, Regina Rajanah Rajan, Margaret J. Peterson, Shirley Johnson, Janice King, Elmie Pilgrim, Diane Cooper, Alicia Grooms, Shirley Caldwell, Madeline Campbell, Clementine Kennedy, Juanita Mohammed and Rita King.

Since their reorganization, the Commission on Women has focused attention primarily on homeless families temporarily sheltered at Isiah House, assisting with housing, employment, health services for

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A time for serious reflections

(Continued from page 1)

When individuals sit down with children and family members, hopefully they will offer prayers to their God, and ask for forgiveness from Yusef's mother for destroying her faith in the criminal justice system.

The white press can celebrate this holiday season, knowing that with few exceptions, they failed in their journalistic duties to fairly and accurately investigate and report the news. Publishers, editors, reporters etc. can share with their families how they used their awesome power to distort information, convict people of color accused of crimes, without benefit of a trial, and aid in the spread of rumors, halftruths, and lies. Just to sell papers (don't spend too much time crying over the problems at the Daily News).

Donald Trump can spend his Christmas, wondering how the press could so viciously turn their back on the "wonder boy" and seek to destroy his well constructed image. His wish that the press leave him alone and in peace with his financial woes and misters is certainly ironic. Apparently Donald has forgotten how (when he was friendly with the press) he took out a full page ad in the New York Times calling for the death penalty (even before the trial) to be given to all of the youth who were allegedly involved in the Central Park jogger case. Don't cry for Donald either, whatever he's getting back, is certainly deserved.

The families of all of the boys arrested, tried, and convicted by the press, and juries in the Central Park jogger cases will face a bleak holiday. Their sons, nephews, cousins etc., young lives will never be the same. Some of their best years will be spent behind bars; the pain and hardships which have been inflicted on their mothers and fathers during this past year, only increasing. It's funny how the

press so occupied by this part of the story during the Bensonhurst trials, remained silent on this holiday during their coverage of the Central Park cases.

I guess the judge who refused to allow Kevin Richardson to choose an attorney, who the family felt would represent his best interest, can spend his Christmas satisfied that he denied this young man his constitutional rights. When the family wanted C. Vernon Mason to come in and represent Kevin, the judge refused to allow Kevin to change attorneys. Since C. Vernon Mason along with Alton Maddox, Colin Moore (who brilliantly defended his client) and Michael Warren, are among the best and most conscious of our activist attorneys, it's clear why the judge feared having him in the courtroom. The combination of Mason and Moore in the courtroom together, would have resulted in a lot of the contradictions and holes in the prosecution case.

The African American community should spend this holiday season, carefully examining where we are spending our hard earned dollars. Will we support our own businesses and institutions, or will we continue to buy products and goods from stores and businesses who refuse to contribute anything back to our communities? Will we continue to let our enormous economic power be taken for granted without demanding accountability?

Furthermore, we need to reflect upon our failure to collectively come together to respond to the ongoing attacks being directed at our families, children, schools, businesses etc. Can we put aside the ego, and self-hatred for now, and get down to the serious business of survival?

There's something for everyone to reflect upon this holiday season. Let's all take the time during our busy schedules to do so.

Quote of the Week

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

Luke Chapter 2 Verse 14

CITY NEWS

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YOUTH/EDUCATION/SUCCESS

Jersey City Public Schools holds convocation

The Jersey City Public Schools held its first annual Student Convocation, "In Pursuit of Excellence," on November 14, 1990 at Snyder High School. Over 900 students, distinguished for academic achievement from all of the high schools in the district, gathered for an all-day session to hear speakers praise them for their accomplishments and encourage them to continue to strive for excellence.

They were greeted by Elena Scambio, State District Superintendent of Schools and the student Presidents of the National Honor Societies at each high school. The keynote addresses were presented by Dr. Lenworth Gunther, a nationally recognized consultant on Multicultural Studies and Reverend Buster Scario, a prominent speaker on teen-age moral responsibility. Also present at the convocation were representatives from the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce and INROADS, an organization

funded by corporations and foundations to prepare minority youth for business and community leadership.

In his welcoming speech, Superintendent Scambio challenged the students as "the brightest and best" from their respective high school, "to develop a vision" for themselves and the future of our nation. "Dare to be great! Be a risktaker! But, above all, believe in your own abilities" she told the students.

Dr. Gunther, a former Woodrow Wilson and former Ford Foundation Doctoral Fellow, who has taught African, Caribbean and Afro-American history at Ramapo College, Drew, Fairleigh Dickinson and Rutgers, declared to the students that "It is not hip to be an underachiever. Bart Simpson is O.K., but I am here to honor achievers." Gunther also challenged the students when he said, "I charge you to take charge."

CAN'T TOUCH THIS!

King Sun" From ruthless to righteous

by Terry Benjamin

King Sun (Todd Turnbow) from Paterson, New Jersey, combines rap and religion on "Righteous But Ruthless," one of the strongest albums from those rappers down with the Five Percent Nation of Islam, a religious sect formed by Clarence 13X Smith (Father Allah) in 1964 when he left Elijah Muhammad's Nation of Islam. This Afrocentric movement has attracted thousands of black youth, including rappers Lakim Shabazz from Newark and Poor Righteous Teachers from Trenton.

"Be Black," the first single from this album, comes out just in time to be considered among the top ten rap singles of 1990. King Sun shows himself to be an eloquent orator on what it really means to be black:

You might fool others but you can't fool Sun Waves build with a brother then I am the one Play connect the dots all the way to the Motherland What have you done for your nation my brother man?

What King Sun and other righteous rapper have done is used rap music as a forum for ideas designed to build a black community. Afrocentric in thought but diverse in approach. To prove he is not alone in this mission, King Sun is joined by Poor Righteous Teachers on "The Gods Are Taking Head," a musical warning to the "mentally dead" who refuse to wake up to 1990 reality. As King Sun explains it: "The sword is used as an emblem of justice/Bust this, you die if you try and touch this!"

King Sun is a big man (6'7") with a big message, a worthy sequel to his first album 'XX' (XX=large) that was produced in

The way to be black is to strive for goals

You're no longer the people who are bought and sold My advice to you is a word to the wise

Snap out of the negative into the civilized

This place around you is meant to down you

Kings and queens but yet they still won't crown you Sun Born Allah has a goal no doubt

If you're black and you're proud you better live that out

King Sun
Be Black

1989. Self-proclaimed "Asiatic Terrorist," King Sun is the first one to admit that the road from ruthlessness to righteousness isn't easy. "Big Shots" portrays a world controlled by gangsters who buy justice as they dodge assassination attempts on the road to the riches

Even in his present incarnation, King Sun has to resist the temptation of the women he describes in "Be Black": "Your clothes are tight I can see every inch Then you wonder how I get this urge to pinch." But he does more than touch on "Stunts" where he raps: "Took me to your room, hung up my coat/Ask me if I wanna play love bout/Yeah, how do ya play it? remember I said/Then you pushed me into your waterbed." And although this track contains strong sexual imagery, it has a sobering message; all the gods who visited this "stunt" had to go to the VD clinic.

Another type of woman is discussed on "Undercover Lover": "Nothing is wrong 'cause there's poison between us/People start rumors from the time they've seen us/Holding hands, a smile at each other/Even though we pass for sister and brother." Be-

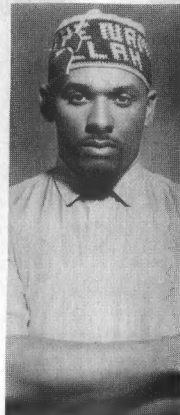
cause King Sun raps in reality this strong song has a bittersweet ending his "undercover lover" threatens to expose him as the father of her child.

A move away from the temptations of the flesh can be found

on "King Sun With The Sword," a boasting rap with a message: "I'm in the mood to trade with a power move/I'm still waitin' for the others to show and prove/You're gonna learn not to tanger with Islam/I'm blowing everybody up with this bomb."

Bombs are also dropped on "Pure Energy" and "Soft Shoe Booty" that features King Sun's hard core rap style: "I was gonna let you slide but I decided not to/Don't even try to run 'cause I got you trapped like a rat, your tail being squeezed in a trap I see, caught you going for the cheese."

Back on the righteous tip, King Sun offers "Universal Flag," a rap that explains the seal of the Five Percent Nation. Still the hard core rhymes of King Sun are not far behind, a perfect example being "Cold New Yorkin'" where he boasts: "Cold New Yorkin' and, yes, I can hold myself rhymes were gold then I would have a goldmine."



With help from producers King Shameek, Tony D, and Troy Wonder, King Sun's "Righteous But Ruthless" LP presents lessons in blackness that are hard to resist, especially on a classic rap like "Be Black".

Even some rappers' fronts in their videos Nothing but areas tryin' to be memorial

I'm not impressed by the way some stars perpetrate to be original

You know who you are I dist my people who choose to lack

Cause there's more to learn on how to be black.

Newark's "Youth of the Month" honors

Newark Mayor Sharpe James recently named two outstanding students, Akhira Ismail and Everett Gray, as November's "Youth of the Month" for the City's Incentive Awards program co-sponsored by WNNX-FM radio. Both students were honored for their athletic and academic performance at Arts High School.

"The City of Newark takes great pride in each of our award winners. You have excelled academically and athletically and demonstrated a great amount of discipline and dedication. I truly hope you peers will emulate the example you have set," said Assemblyman Jackie Mattison, the Mayor's chief of staff, addressing the awardees. Mattison represented Mayor James at the ceremony.

The Incentive Award program is a monthly event that recognizes

outstanding Newark residents who have distinguished themselves in various categories: "Citizen of the Month," "Teacher of the Month," and "Youth of the Month." Each winner is chosen by Mayor James and awarded \$250.

Akhira Ismail, a lifelong resident of Newark and freshman at Arts High School, is pursuing a career in Graphic Arts. As a member of the Arts High School track team, Ismail placed second in both the county and state sectional.

Everett Gray, also a major force for the Arts High track team, is a senior and plans to attend college to become a mechanical engineer. Everett also serves as co-captain of the track team and captain of the cross-country track team for Arts High.

Dickinson High School student wins Bell Laboratories grant

The Minority Student grant Program of AT&T Bell Laboratories has awarded a grant to Dickinson high school student Damon Critten. The ninth grader received the award for a project that he designed to produce a computer controlled roving robot.

The AT&T program is sending \$995 for the purchase of equipment for the robot project and supplying a mentor from Bell Laboratories to advise the Dickinson freshman. He has also been invited to tour Bell Labs in Murray Hill, New Jersey.

Damon Critten is also eligible to submit a report on his project by late Spring, to compete in a scholarship competition run as part of the Minority Student

Grant Program. A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by Bell Labs for the best project report. Carole Linkiewicz is Damon's science teacher at Dickinson and his mentor is Abhaya Arduana.

Dr. Elena Scambio, State District Superintendent, praised AT&T Bell Laboratories for "encouraging minority student involvement in the sciences and for nurturing talented students in urban high schools." Scambio stated: "The AT&T program is a good example of how the Education/Business Alliance is helping our schools to prepare our graduates for the high-tech economy of the future and keep America competitive."

For further information, call: Leslie Silberman, 915-6222.

Yo-Yo-What up

Seriously, we want to hear from you. This is your page so make the most of it. Let us know how you feel. Express yourself anyway you want to. Send it to:

YES
City News
P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07061

We wish you a happy and peaceful holiday season & new year!

To see our smiling faces, turn to page 10



1. Henry C. Johnson - Publisher
2. Jan Edgerton Johnson - Managing Editor
3. Lorraine Davis Hickman - Sales Executive
4. Gloria F. Owens - Composition
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6. Connie Woodruff - Columnist
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8. Fern Taylor - Sports
9. Dwayne Ferguson - Cartoonist
10. Terry Benjamin - Columnist
11. Jereme Johnson - Youth Editor
12. Herb Jackson - Circulations
13. C. J. Johnson - Assistant

And, the exceptional work of Jay Foster who is responsible for this and many of City's thought-provoking editorial cartoons.

Captain Africa



DWAYNE FERGUSON

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

WASHINGTON—Services for the Christmas season at the Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will begin with the prayer of the Rosary at 11:50 a.m. The Eucharistic Liturgy will follow at 11:30 a.m. From 5:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. there will be Confessions, Vespers and a Benediction. For more information, call 689-1700 weekdays and 689-2319 weekends.

PLAINFIELD—A Christmas Eve "Carol and Candlelight" Service will highlight Messiah Lutheran Church's celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at 8:00 p.m. Call 755-4525 for more information.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

WYOMING—The Most Reverend Theodore E. McCannick, Archbishop of Newark, will celebrate the Christmas Mass on WYOR-TV, Channel 9, at 6:00 a.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

MORRISTOWN—Calvary Baptist Church will hold a New Year's Eve Watchnight Service at 10:30 p.m. at 10 Martin Luther King Jr. For additional information call 267-0136.

WASHINGTON—The Fathers and Sisters at the World Apostolate of Fatima extend a warm and sincere invitation to peoples of all Faiths to come join them in prayer and reflection on New Year's Eve at the beautiful and reposeful Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Services will begin at 6:00 p.m. For information, call 689-1700 weekdays and 689-2319 weekends.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

NEWARK—Newark Recreation and Cultural Affairs Division presents "Sing In Praise Of King", a three part tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. The series will begin at 3 p.m. at the First Zion Hill Baptist Church, 1-15 Leslie Street. It continues Sunday, January 22, 3 p.m. at the Grace Episcopal Church, 950 Broad St. and concludes Sunday, January 27, 3 p.m. at the St. James AME Church, 588 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For additional information call Celeste Bateman 201-733-6454.

Santa and his helpers spread cheer

(Continued from page 1)

infants to 17 years old at seven public housing projects around the city.

Unfortunately, it is sometimes difficult to get all of the eligible families to avail themselves of the clinic's important services. To encourage children to turn out for the checkups that are especially important in this cold- and flu-racked Christmas season, Samsonite Corporation, which donated \$98,000 to purchase the van, sponsored Santa's appearance and pre-holiday gift-giving.

Hundreds of children from the housing project showed up to meet Santa. "We're delighted that Santa's presence served as a further incentive for the residents to stop by and get the medical help that they need," said Steven J. Green, Samsonite's chairman.

The van is the only one providing on-site health services to children in the city's projects.

The Newark Children's Health Project van is staffed by a pediatrician, nurse practitioner, nurse and social worker, all affiliated with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—University Hospital (UMDNJ). Approximately 33 feet long, the unit contains two examining rooms, a laboratory for basic tests, a waiting room and lavatory. Services include primary care, such as immunizations and screening tests, acute illness care and follow-up of chronic illness.

The mobile medical van was spearheaded by U.S. Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ), and was developed in cooperation with the Hospital, the New York Children's Health Project, and the City of Newark.

"We're proud to be associated with a cause as worthy as the Newark Children's Health Project," said Samsonite's Green. "We can't think of a greater gift to give than the gift of health, nor of recipients more deserving than youngsters."

Boys' and Girls' Club of Newark holds annual benefit

Over 400 friends and supporters of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark gathered in the Court Room of the Newark Museum on Thursday evening, December 6, for the 11th Annual Wine Tasting Benefit for the clubs.

Presided over the raffle drawing featuring prizes donated by corporations and individuals.

Congressman Donald Payne, who served as honorary co-chair of the wine tasting with Mayor

Sharpe James and Museum director Sam Miller commented, "It is always a pleasure to attend the annual Boys' and Girls' Clubs, Wine Tasting Event. In addition to helping a great cause — the recreation and education of our young people — it is a great social event where proud New Yorkers have another opportunity to showcase a positive aspect of our great city. This year in particular

has been fulfilling in that manner because many of our patrons viewed the renovations of the Museum for the first time."

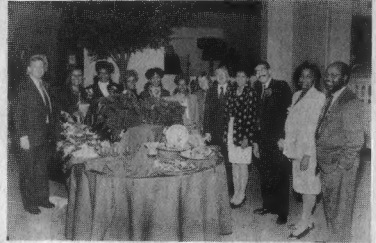
The Annual Wine Tasting Benefit is our opportunity, as professionals working in Newark, to express how much we appreciate

The event annually features samples of wine, non-alcoholic beverages and food from around the world. This year Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark trustee Prosecutor Herbert Tate, Jr.

the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark's stewardship of so many children in the city," said Sharon Lindsay-Walton, chairperson of the event for the last four years. This fund-raiser is an investment in the city from the professionals who work in Newark.

As the city's oldest youth development guidance organization, we have a critical role to play in Newark's renaissance," said Barbara Bell, chief executive officer of the clubs. We see ourselves as partners with the city government, corporate community other community based organizations — in building a strong future for Newark, and we're pleased that this partnership is represented in this room tonight."

The Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark serves 5,000 children in Newark at four clubs in the city



Members of the Executive Committee are shown, left to right: C. Thomas Marshall, Dorothea Lee, Gloria Hopkins Buck, Carolyn M. Whitman, Barbara Wright Bell-Chief Executive Officer The Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark, Gail Sherman Guy, Mary Sue Sweeney Assistant Director Newark Museum, Robert Konrberg, Donna Sparks, Russell A. Murray, Sharon Lindsay-Walton, Roger C. Tucker III

and a summer camp in rural Pot-

terville, New Jersey. The clubs offer the youngsters a variety of programming in such areas as organized athletics, entrepreneurship, aquatics, music and the arts, supplementary education, Flip City power tumbling and health education. The Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark also serves as the lead agency for "Fighting Back," a city-wide initiative to reduce the demand for drugs and

alcohol in Newark.

Said Bell, "We sincerely appreciate the support of all those who attended and contributed to tonight's wine tasting and the efforts of the volunteers who served on the wine tasting committee and did all the work in putting this event together. The funds raised tonight will help us continue to enhance the lives of Newark's children."

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December 1990

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Our Statement of Condition as of December 31, 1990 will appear in this newspaper in mid-January. It will show an institution with reserves and undivided profits of more than \$106 million, an amount far in excess of all regulatory requirements. Of equal importance is the fact that we are experiencing a profitable year, with each quarter being more profitable than the preceding quarter or the comparable quarter a year ago. Therefore, our reserves and undivided profits continue to grow.

In addition, your savings dollars are insured to the legal limit by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Grant
Patrick J. Grant
President

CITY LIFE

BILLBOARD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

NEWARK—Sing in Praise of King, a three-part musical tribute to the late great civil rights champion, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be presented by the City of Newark's Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs (DORCA). At 2:00 p.m., at the First Zion Hill Baptist Church, 1-15 Leslie Street, The second program, Sunday, January 20, 2:00 p.m., at the Grace Episcopal Church, 500 Broad Street. The series concludes Sunday, January 27, 3:00 p.m., at the St. James A.M.E. Church, 588 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. Admission to all three events is free. For additional information please call Celeste Bateman 201-733-6454.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

MONTCLAIR—Native American Crafts Exhibition through March 3 in the College Art Gallery, Life Hall at Montclair State College. Admission is free. Call 201-495-5113 for further information.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

PLAINFIELD—Jeanie Bryson, Jazz Singer, Piano and Drums will appear at the Plainfield Public Library, West Esplanade and Park Avenue. Admission is free. For information call 757-1111.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

NEW BRUNSWICK—Paul Robeson, Philip Hays, Dean's on-screen drama starring Avery Brooks as the extraordinary artist and activist, returns for a live-performance engagement at the State Theatre to March 30. Presented by Crossroads Theatre Company. For reservations, call Ticket Central, 201-246-7469. Group sales, call Gary N. Johnson at 201-549-5541. Crossroads subscribers should call 201-249-5560 to reserve their seats.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Symphony Orchestra presents the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto at the Presbytery Church. For information call 201-232-9400.

Tickets sale of Nets vs. the LA Lakers

The Association for Retarded Citizens, United County is sponsoring a sale of tickets to the Nets vs. the LA Lakers game on January 25, 1991 at the Meadowlands Arena. Proceeds from the sale of the tickets will help support the ARC's programs for children and adults with mental retardation. This is the Lakers only appearance in New Jersey this year.

A halftime ceremony will honor Assemblyman Neil Cohen and the United County Department of Parks and Recreation for their support of people with mental retardation over the years.

Tickets are \$15.00 and \$20.00 and are available by calling 754-5910.

Champions Thrift Shop

NEWARK—The weather's getting colder and University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) Champions has a great assortment of warm outer wear in its thrift shop on the UMDNJ campus.

The thrift shop is also a great place to shop for unique gifts for those hard-to-buy-for people on your holiday shopping list. Whether its cookie jars or Motown cassettes, you'll probably find something in the well-stocked store, and at a great bargain, too.

The shop, which opened in 1988, has attracted so much quality merchandise and so many bargain hunters that it has expanded its space in 65 Bergen Street (Marland Building). The shop's entrance is on 12th Avenue.

Proceeds from the shop benefit University-wide projects, but the shop also was created so that residents in the community can buy good-quality clothes and household items at affordable prices," Mrs. Bergen said. "All of the items are donated and that's why the prices are such bargains."

The thrift shop is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stop by the shop and you just might find that winter scarf you've been hunting for that out-of-print book you've been after.

Bongi's Journey: Coming of age of a South African girl

by DWAYNE J. FERGUSON

Adaptability and survival. No other race on earth has earned the right to say that they've beaten every conceivable obstacle set against them; from slavery to miseducation, from the KKK to New York and Teaneck "police," except for people of African descent. We have been through it all and somehow, still manage to dominate everything we try our hands at or put our minds to. We, to the dismay of our oppressors, even manage to keep smiling, singing, and crooning (face it, we just "got it like that").

This is what Crossroads Theatre's latest stage production, "Bongi's Journey" is all about. Filled with emotional song and dance, we follow the story of a South African girl, Bongi (whose Zulu name means "we give thanks") from her birth in the village of Kwanabamba into womanhood. We also watch on as her life becomes entangled and mercilessly manipulated as she is pulled deeper and deeper into the genocidal web of apartheid.

The tale begins, as everyone's life should, with happiness, friends, family, and community. As a little girl, Bongi shows us her innocence to life's darker side as she believes that the reason her father has left home is because of a child's tale: that she drank amehewu (a beverage made from corn meal) and that all fathers leave home and never come back when they catch their children drinking it. The truth is that her father has been made to work in the mines of eGoli (the city of gold, Johannesburg).

As Bongi grows older, she follows her dream to become a school teacher but suddenly comes to realize that she, in fact, had only been trained to train laborers. Needless to say, this causes trouble squared and the soul-less Apartheid decide to show her their style of hospitality.

Equipped with a multi-talented cast of actress-singers, the production stars South African native, Ms. Thuli Dumakude (who also co-wrote the play and composed the music with her husband, playwright, Welcome Msimi), Kyra Hider, Terry Burrell, Debbie Blackwell-Cook, and Janine Jones.

There is much more that I could tell you about this production but "Bongi's Journey" is

more than just another play. Even though the theatrical setting is South Africa, you may find yourself quite capable of relating, because right outside of our own doors is a very similar country. Only we spell it A-M-E-R-I-C-A.

You may see "Bongi's Journey" through January 20th at Crossroads Theatre in New Brunswick. For tickets, please call (201) 249-5560.



Thuli Dumakude, foreground, recreates the wedding of Nomsa, mother of Bongi in the new musical, "Bongi's Journey," at Crossroads Theatre Company through January 20. In background, from left, are Janine Jones-Evans, Debbie Blackwell-Cook, and Terry Burrell.

As I See It

(Continued from page 4)
women and children and family counselling.

Last September the Commission sponsored an education and information seminar on available health services, focusing on the rise of AIDS, tuberculosis

and venereal diseases among young blacks. The distribution of food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas along with toys and clothing, earned the Commission members recognition as "Angels of Mercy," according to councilwoman Beverly Williams.

RADIOSCOPE...THE COLUMN

TOP STORIES: WAS THE TIME REUNION A BUST?

TALK OF A PALIMONY/PRENUPIAL FOR JANET WHOOP! NARRATES HISTORY OF BLACK COMEDY FIND OUT IF QUINCY HAS A WHITE WOMAN THANG

From Bailey Broadcasting Services Via Serra Syndication

Was the Time Reunion a Bust? The Time: Morris Day, Jimmy Jam, Terry Lewis, Jesse Johnson, Jannet Benson, Monte Moir, and Jeffrey Johnson, had a whole lot of fans anxious to get their hands on their "Pandemonium" album this summer. When the band broke up in '85, there were alot of disappointed fans. "Pan-demonium" offered them the prospect of picking up where they left off. Interest was high enough to push "Jerk Out", the lead single to the top, but the momentum has faded, and the album, which was slated to turn gold, is slipping off the scene. What might have helped was the Prince film, "Graffiti Bridge". Unfortunately, that of long-awaited sequel to "Purple Rain" turned out to be a dog of a movie. However, as individuals, all of the Time have great careers going. More notably, Morris Day went on to success as a solo artist and is becoming an established actor, while keyboardist Jimmy Jam and bass player, Terry Lewis have become one of the hottest production teams in the music business. And so, even if "Pandemonium" doesn't produce another hit, the guys are satisfied with all that they've achieved. Says Jam: "We feel like the album being done is really what we set out to do, and everything after that, it's kind of a thing where if everybody wants to take the time to do it, we'll continue. But really our goal was just to do the record. So now, we have a record, a movie and possibly a tour, so for now, it's gone a lot further than we all could let ourselves hope that it would." Who knows what the future has in store for The Time. If the album manages to land a couple more hit singles on the chart, The Time tour could become a reality. But don't count on them staying together for long, they've all got too much going on individually.

From the PP&T (People, Places & Things) File: Supposedly, Janet Jackson's gotten boyfriend Rene Elizondo to sign a sort of prenuptial/palmimony agreement. Apparently, Janet's trying to protect herself against a lawsuit should she and Elizondo decide to go their separate ways. Happy that he was so willing, sign the deal, Janet supposedly bought him a Mercedes costing \$91,000. Now, Janet can spend that kind of money and not feel the financial pinch. But if she gets the new record deal she's been looking for, she can spend that and much, much more. Janet's contract with A&M Records is finished and she's been looking for a company willing to meet her new price: a four album contract at \$10 million per album? A&M wants to keep Janet but they've got to come up with the cash. Meanwhile, rumor has it that Virgin has agreed to Janet's terms...People often say that comedy's roots are based in pain and tragedy. A two-hour syndicated television special, "A Laugh, A Tear", explores that old saying with a star-studded lineup of black comedians, including Eddie Murphy, Richard Pryor, Sinbad, Bill Cosby, Arsenio Hall, Moms Mabley, Redd Foxx, and vaudevillians Ben Williams and Piggmeat Markham. Actress Beverly Todd co-produced the show with Whoopi Goldberg, who also hosts. Todd, a first-time TV producer, says the show goes all-out to tell the whole story of black comedy...Rappers are jumping into singing with a vengeance. Ice-T and L.L. Cool J. have been cast as cops in two upcoming feature films. M.C. Hammer made his own Ninja Turtles, scheduled for release next year.

Feedback Line: Does Quincy Jones have a white woman thang? That was the question posed on a recent feedback segment. The answer? Well, Quincy spoke about having only white wives earlier this year in a Playboy Magazine interview conducted by his long-time friend, "Roots" author, Alex Haley. He compared women to ice cream, saying that he liked "all flavors", and that just doesn't mean vanilla. He added that his white ex-wives were just the way things turned out for him. And now, if you have an opinion on any RadioScope story, just call the Feedback Line at (215) 257-2354.

NOTE: RADIOSCOPE IS A NATIONALLY SYNDICATED RADIO PROGRAM. CALL YOUR LOCAL STATION FOR SHOWTIMES.

Screen Premieres

From Serra Syndication

"The Long Walk Home"

Just the other day, a friend asked what was the best movie I'd seen all this year. None came to mind...that is until the other night and "A Long Walk Home," a film I strongly recommend that everyone see. It is the story of how the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955 affected two families—one black, one white—as told through the eyes of a seven-year-old child. But don't go thinking this one will put you to sleep. It is a powerful, compelling and at times riveting drama that captures the terrifying tension and high drama of those turbulent times.

The casual brutality and rampant humiliation characteristic of the Jim Crow south were recreated with chilling accuracy, complete with "Nigger jokes" and mass meetings shot in the very churches that spawned the real-life movement. Why, some of the extras, had even been present at the original rally of the White Citizens' council some 35 years ago. Inspired by "To Kill A Mockingbird" and "Eyes On The Prize", this is also a film about the unsung heroes of America's most controversial movement, and a peek into southern rituals.

Whoopi Goldberg plays Odesa Cotter who is a maid in the Thompson household, when the boycott begins and is just as suddenly faced with getting to and from work—a nine-mile trek by foot. Sissy Spacek is Miriam Thompson, a housewife and socialite, torn between who she is and who her husband and a segregated South wants her to be.

When the long, walk home forces Odesa to tender her resignation, Miriam determines to do the unthinkable—taxi her black maid to and from work, forcing a wedge between her and her husband. As the conflict intensifies, so too does her resolve to help, until finally the volunteers to be one of the drivers of a local carpool, in spite of Whoopi's warning that she is opening a Pandora's box. All of which in her face in the film's most climactic moment, as the White Citizens' Council (including Miriam's unknowing husband, Norman) attempt to shut the carpool down, casts both Miriam and Odesa into the middle of a near race riot.

The cast is brilliant as this is nothing shy of a powerful film, showing the guts of a movement that nearly tore a city apart, while bringing two women from different backgrounds together. Other notable performances are turned in by Cosby kid, Erika Alexander as Whoopi's teenage daughter Selma, who slips out on a rendezvous in the interest of time, takes the bus, only to learn a profound lesson from her brother, Richard Habersham, who boldly takes a non-violent stand when her actions lead to a confrontation between he and three young white street thugs.

All in all, "The Long Walk Home" is an extraordinary story of courage. A film we should be most happy to send our children to—a film they shouldn't be denied, recalling moments we need to remember and a time we should never forget.

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CITY BUSINESS

"1991 minority business enterprise symposium set

CHICAGO—"Minority Business Enterprise: The Final Decade and into the Next Century" will be the theme of a Symposium to be held in Chicago next April. Sponsored by the Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce

of Chicago, the focus of the gathering will be "Access to Capital". The 1991 Symposium will tackle a wide range of financial concerns such as finding money, dealing with banks, venture capital and creative financing. Pope

emphasizes that "These are working meetings. We expect that concrete and practical solutions will emerge from the dialogue among business people, management professionals, financiers and other experts." Last year's Symposium

provided considerable substance for hearings conducted by the National Commission on Minority Business Enterprise headed by Joshua Smith.

The two-day Symposium will be held in Chicago on April 4 and

5 at the Westin Hotel. Special discounted airfares are available to those attending. Call the Cosmopolitan Chamber at (312) 785-0212 for additional information.



Black elected officials rally

(Continued from page 1)

African American... This is the epitome of disrespect to the contributors. African Americans have made to the Democratic Party," NBC-LEO has responded with Governor Jim Florio, to hold a meeting to discuss this issue.

A number of local Black Elected Officials have added their voice in support of the need for African-American appointments, including several Urban Mayors, local legislators, Ministers, Police, and community groups.

Newark's Mayor Sharpe James stated that the "question in the selection of a Sheriff and Prosecutor is one of participation in the decision-making process by those whose votes were the difference between winning and losing, as opposed to being ignored and forgotten."

Mayor Robert Brown of Orange indicated, "I am a proud Democrat who believes that a family who works together should also grow and progress together. A Black Sheriff or Prosecutor would be a proud addition to our

long line of Essex County Democratic achievements. I look forward to the Essex County Democratic Party being recognized in this state as a political organization that always supports its loyal members."

The Churches, which have played a viable part in advocating for "representation," are also part of this movement. Dr. E.W. Verner, President of the Newark-North Jersey Committee of Black Churches maintains, "The Black Church has played a formidable role in the civil rights movement.

"Right now we are emphasizing the fact that there are qualified African-American candidates who should be given highest consideration for these positions. Not only are we working locally, but we have a network of churches across the state, all of which are helping to ensure fair representation in key positions." Reverend Willie A. Simmons, Chairman of the Churchmen's Political Committee added that "out of 21 Counties in New Jersey, many with a large Black population, I don't think that asking for one Sheriff and one Prosecutor is asking for too much. The issue right which has been dedicated to the Democratic party of the years, and historically delivered Democratic candidates into office."

Support in the legislature is equally strong: Congressman Donald Payne stated that the Black Elected Officials are "a viable part of the democratic family. This action is a step in the right direction toward fair and equitable representation in those and in other positions."

Senator Wynona Lipman pointed to the fact that this "is not just a local issue. We have to recognize the need for representation at all levels, and stand up to make sure that key posts are filled by African Americans, not just in Essex County or New Jersey, but across the United States."

Speaking from the vantage point of public safety needs on a local level, Sergeant Joseph Foushee, member of the Newark Police Department and the Safety

Officer's Coalition, indicated that he "wants to ensure that we get someone from the community who is representative of the community, and who understands the sensitivities of those who utilize the system."

Essex County Register, Larrie Stukes simply stated "we have paid our dues. We have fought the fight and supported everybody. It is now time for the Party to support our request for an African-American Prosecutor and Sheriff."

Additional organizations who have officially endorsed these efforts include the Bronze Shields, Inc., the NAACP-NJ Chapter, Baton's Inc., the National Council of Negro Women, the Organization of Black Baptist Ministers, and the Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce.

Minority scholarships

(Continued from page 1)

There will be a four year transitional period, during which institutions would have time to review their scholarship programs. This grace period is also provided to prevent the suffering of minority students already under scholarships and those being evaluated for scholarships. If the regulations are enforced the finding of privately donated money will be come a crucial factor in helping minority students begin and continue their education.

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CITY NEWS
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On the Money

Serra Syndication

Reparations For Blacks-A Matter of Self-Determination? If you thought the issue of reparations for blacks was one that Congress is going to let fall by the wayside, you'll be happy to know that 65-year old Robert Brock, is not going to let that happen. Thus far, he's been able to collect 265,000 signatures on redress petitions that he plans to present to the government to insure that the issue is neither forgotten or buried under red tape. The California-based founder of the Self-Determination Committee, has been campaigning for reparations for African-Americans who helped build the nation, for the greater part of his adult life. Among blacks now pushing to make sure the bill introduced last year (by U.S. Rep. John Conyers) is supported are Louis Farrakhan, as well as organizations like the National Council of Blacks for Reparations, based in Detroit. Opponents argue that the government could not afford to make massive reparations for blacks. That, some supporters have argued, that reparations could be made in the form of educational benefits to descendants. Ironically, a national spokesman for the education benefits to descendants. Ironically, a national spokesman for the NAACP, says that the organization has not taken position on the issue. NAACP Works To Put Black Firms In Music Video Mix: It's no secret that the music video explosion has generated not only a huge pool of revenues within the record industry, but quite a windfall for the often times small, independent firms that produce them. However, it was a process that minorities were being excluded from. That's according to the NAACP, which has begun working with record labels and production companies to change the situation. "We received complaints from African-American video production firms about getting access to the market," says Michael Fleischer, who was appointed as head of a task force to rectify the issue. That task force has now set a goal of at least 40% representation of African-American personnel working on videos. Presently, blacks sometimes comprise as little as 5% of the crews. However, after meeting with some of the respective labels, they are looking up, and many have gone on record to commit themselves to hiring minority producers and directors. Already, MCA has determined that six projects per year will go to minority-owned start-up companies. What's more, the NAACP is now working to provide labels with a directory of more than 200 black video professionals as a resource guide. And while the NAACP has come to the aid of black video companies, the Congressional Black Caucus is moving to ensure that both women and minorities have the opportunity to compete equally in the TV arena. In a letter to FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes, Congressman Ron Dellums and Edolphus T. Tamm urged that the financial interest and syndication rules be retained "because they have increased the participation of women and minorities in the television industry." What's more, the Caucus believes it imperative that there be no erosion in the environment that has enabled women and minorities to maintain their hardwon opportunities to compete in the TV programming market.

Just Briefly: Quincy Jones has earned the title of "Entrepreneur of the Year" from USA Today. The paper lauded Jones for his entrepreneurial prowess, noting that in under seven months, he's launched an entertainment conglomerate—"Quincy Jones Entertainment"—with \$25 million in front money from his 50-50 partner, Time Warner Inc.; produced a hit TV series—"The Fresh Prince of Bel Air," as well as The Jesse Jackson Show; purchased its first TV station, and has three movies in the work. That's of course, aside from his recordings. What a guy!



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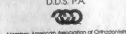
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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MAJOR REPAIRS TO ELEVATORS BID NO. NHA 0240/3

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK will receive sealed bids to FURNISH LABOR AND MATERIALS FOR MAJOR REPAIRS TO ELEVATORS AT VARIOUS PROJECTS AT 10:30 a.m., on the 26th day of January, 1991, at 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07103, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A pre-bid conference will be held on January 10, 1991, at 10:30 a.m., at 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07103.

A complete set of contract documents, including the specification is available in the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, CONTRACTS DIVISION, 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, Telephone No. 430-2356.

A refundable deposit of \$500.00 payable by certified check or money order made out to the order of NEWARK HOUSING AUTHORITY, will be required for each set of bidding documents. The deposit will be refunded to any unsuccessful bidder upon returning the bid in good condition within thirty (30) calendar days.

A bank draft payable to the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, U.S. Government Bonds or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and accepted by the Housing Authority, in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid shall be submitted with each bid, not to exceed \$20,000.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish and pay for a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond or Bonds.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informality in the bidding as well as reserves the right to reject all bids in the event that less than three (3) bids are received at the designated time of the bid opening. The Housing Authority of the City of Newark also reserves the right to award all or a portion of the bid to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

By: Dr. Daniel W. Blue, Jr., Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK will receive sealed BIDS FOR MOVING COMPANIES TO PERFORM RESIDENTIAL HOUSEHOLD MOVES AT VARIOUS PROJECTS AT 10:30 a.m., on the 10th day of January, 1991 at 24-36 Newark, 2nd Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07103, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Thursday, January 3, 1991, 10:00 a.m., at 24-36 Look Street, 2nd Floor, Newark, NJ 07103.

Interested companies should secure a copy of the specifications at the office of the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, Contracts Division, 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, Invitation No. 0254/2.

A bank draft payable to the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, U.S. Government Bonds or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder, in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid, but not in excess of \$20,000.00, except as otherwise provided herein, and may be given, at the discretion of the bidder, by certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish and pay for a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond or Bonds.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informality in the bidding.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK reserves the right to reject all bids in the event that less than three (3) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK reserves the right to award the contract for the total lump sum price for all items and not on an individual item basis.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of the bid without the consent of the HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

By: Dr. Daniel W. Blue, Jr., Executive Director

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Public Notice Township of Bloomfield

Sealed proposals will be received by the Purchasing Committee of the Township of Bloomfield in the Council of Municipal Building, Bloomfield, New Jersey on Monday, January 7, 1991 at 10:00 a.m., prevailing time, and publicly opened and read aloud. Copies of specifications and contract documents for the Residential Rehabilitation project (Application #487) are open to inspection in the Department of Community Development and Inspections, Municipal Building, Room 105, Bloomfield, N.J., and may be secured from said office.

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- B. Painting
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Bids must be made on proposal forms and must be enclosed in sealed, specially addressed envelopes bearing the title, Residential Rehabilitation Department of Community Development and Inspections, Township of Bloomfield accompanied by the Application Number. The address of the bidder and work bid upon, must be delivered at the above place at the time designated. Bids not enclosed in specially addressed envelopes will be considered informal and will not be opened.

The Township Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept all or all items in the proposal, to increase or decrease or eliminate such items as may be necessary for the adoption of any alternative, to accept that bid which in its judgment best serves its interest; to waive any informality or irregularities in the bids received and to accept the bid from the lowest responsible bidder.

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Who are those people? To find out, turn to page 5.